

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, line 1, before the Title please insert the following:

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the heading on page 1 after the Title between lines 2 and 3 as follows:

Field of the Invention

Please amend the paragraph at page 1, lines 3-7, as follows:

The present invention relates to a new embodiment of sliding doors for pieces of furniture or similar decorative elements, particularly of the kind with two shutters and reduced height, having a coplanar closing and [[the]] an opening made possible by making the doors slide over each other.

Please insert the heading on page 1 between lines 7 and 8 as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8 to page 2, line 2, as follows:

~~Main~~ The main feature of ~~this~~ the present invention is that of providing the support and the translation or movement of each sliding door by means of a respective clamp placed on the edge of the outer side, each clamp being linked to a pair of little carriages that can slide transversally with respect to the same door because they are supported and guided by a respective carriage, that, ~~on its~~ in turn, can slide longitudinally along the edge of the opening to close, [[it]] such being guided by a rail and by other control tracks and being forced by [[its]] a loose roller that is engaged in one of the two rails or longitudinal cams, which are supported and positioned beside the supporting and sliding rail, in order to bring permit one

of the two doors to slide over the other during the process of opening and to bring the same door in line with the [[one]] other door at rest during the process of closing.

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 3-7, as follows:

As an alternative to ~~the usual doors with having~~ pivots, some embodiments of sliding doors that can be applied to ~~wardrobes~~ wardrobe closets and pieces of furniture in general and to fittings or any other application of closing elements requiring a reduced space in their open position are well-known.

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 8-13, as follows:

Generally this kind of doors comprise two or more doors, each of them having clamps with rolling means guided by a track made of an upper guide and a lower guide respectively applied to the ~~flloør~~ floor and to the ceiling of the opening to close, a track of one door being beside and parallel to the track of the other door.

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 14-19, as follows:

The sliding action of the shutters in this kind of doors thus occurs then on parallel planes placed one beside the other, achieving the closing of the opening by alignment or partial overlapping of the edges of one shutter on the edges of the other shutter and with the opposite edges of both the shutters being positioned against the edges or the shoulders of the opening to close when closed.

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 20-27, as follows:

The unaesthetic feature of [[the]] sliding doors which are placed during the closing on two different planes, even if they are parallel and not spaced too much apart from each other,

in particular with regard to pieces of furniture where aesthetic is very important, has induced the experts in the field to search for new solutions that provide [[the]] coplanarity of the two shutters during the closing while still assuring their overlapping during the opening.

Please amend the paragraph at page 3, lines 9-23, as follows:

The Italian patent No. 1.208.152 accomplishes in fact the task of the ~~eoplannarity~~
coplanarity due to a dragging device that overcomes also the thrust phase, since only by means of the traction the shutter is brought to change the track and till now it seems to be the most easy and effective solution among the proposed ones, particularly in solutions for sliding doors for pieces of furniture, since it is characterized by the fact that for each shutter a pair of guiding rails is provided by means of proper clamps and respective sliding elements, each of said pair of sliding rails including a straight front guide and a second back guide with ~~bended a bent~~ extremity, while the first guide is provided with a part that parts or splits orthogonally and that is turned towards said second guide to allow the translation of corresponding sliding elements of the relative shutter by simple translation of the shutter to be moved.

Please amend the paragraph at page 3, lines 24-28, as follows:

~~Anyway, also the~~ The relative structural simplicity of the solution for sliding doors proposed by the mentioned patent has revealed a certain complexity during the production and [[the]] assembling as well as a certain bulky structure for the support and the translation of the doors.

Please amend the paragraph at page 4, lines 1-13, as follows:

Particularly, it has been found out that the overall dimensions of the clampings and of the lower rails causes lack of use of the piece of furniture where these sliding doors are applied. It is an object of this invention to provide sliding doors, particularly for high quality pieces of furniture, that achieve the task of coplanarity of their shutters during the closing or in a closed state besides the obvious overlapping of both sides of the piece of furniture during the opening of the same piece of furniture by simply dragging any of its shutter without adding any phase of thrust, since the translated shutter goes automatically by itself to the same plane of the still shutter at rest during the closing, achieving this movement without changing the supporting track or translation guide.

Please amend the paragraph at page 4, lines 14-18, as follows:

Another object of this invention is to provide sliding doors having a simple structure, [[an]] easy assembling and functioning of the translation system still assuring the best overlapping during the opening and coplanarity during the closing of the shutters.

Please amend the paragraph at page 4, lines 19-23, as follows:

Further A further object of this invention is that of providing sliding doors that have a translation or movement, overlapping and coplanarity system with reduced overall dimensions or anyway such that [[it]] such weighs upon the usable volume of the piece of furniture to use only in the least and in the least bulky way.

Please amend the paragraph at page 4, lines 24-27, as follows:

Last but not least object of this invention is that of being advantageous, in case of shutters being not very high great in height, for the application to sliding doors having a proportional greater length or width of the opening.

Please insert the heading on page 5, line 1 as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the paragraph at page 5, lines 1-5, as follows:

These and other objects are perfectly achieved by the present invention as it can be inferred by the following description of one of its embodiment being purely indicative and not limiting, illustrated also with the help of ~~23 schematic drawings represented in the attached eight sheets~~ Figures filed herewith in which:

Please amend the paragraph at page 5, lines 6-12, as follows:

FIG. 1 shows a front vertical view of a casual shape of a piece of furniture, to which a pair of sliding doors are to be applied, said sliding doors closing and opening [[its]] in a suspended space thereof, [[it]] such being illustrated only with the [[only]] application of the tracks for the longitudinal sliding of the shutters and the application of the longitudinal support that hold the upper guide of said track;

Please amend the paragraph at page 6, lines 6-10, as follows:

FIG. 9 shows a cross sectional view of one of the two sliding shutters including [[its]] a clamp thereof for the linking to the translation and coplanarity device as in FIGS. 4 to 6 and an elbow bar for the transmission of the guide to the lower slide of FIGS. 7 and 8;

Please amend the paragraph at page 6, lines 11-18, as follows:

FIG. 10 shows a front and overturned view of the longitudinal carriage that is applied indicatively on the ~~entre~~ center line of the upper side of the shutter to support and translate, according to what above specified, [[it]] such being intended to slide longitudinally in proper seats of the support of the guides of FIG. 1 and [[it]] such being provided with a little carriage that can translate axially with respect to said carriage, thus translating transversally with respect to the same guides of FIG. 1;

Please amend the paragraph at page 6, lines 21 to page 7, line 3, as follows:

FIG. 13 shows a front view of the longitudinal carriage applied to the upper top of the side of the shutter to support and translate according what specified above, [[it]] such being intended to slide longitudinally into proper seats of the supports of the guides of FIG. 1 and [[it]] such being provided with a carriage that can translate axially with respect to said carriage, thus translating transversally with respect to the same guides of FIG. 1;

Please amend the paragraph at page 7, lines 15-16, as follows:

FIG. 18 shows a side view of the same part of piece of furniture [[of]] as shown in FIGS. 16 and 17;

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 4-6, as follows:

FIG. 21 shows a front view of the same piece of furniture of FIG. 1 completed with the accessories for the movement of [[its]] the sliding doors thereof according to the invention;

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 7-9, as follows:

FIG. 22 shows a top view of the same piece of furniture of FIG. 21, [[it]] such being represented with the sliding doors already closed and coplanary;

Please insert the heading on page 8 between lines 11 and 12 as follows:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 14-19, as follows:

According to the embodiment illustrated in the different drawings of the attached drawings, a piece of furniture M of any shape has an opening or space V with the bottom F and ceiling S and is closed with a pair of sliding doors on shutters 1a and 1b being particularly characterized by their height relative to their greater width.

Please amend the paragraph at page 10, lines 12-17, as follows:

The movement in depth of the carriage 3b (cf. FIGS. 10-12) applied on the entre center line of the shutter 1b and linked to the already mentioned clamp 2 is possible since the carriage can slide by means of little rollers 31 along proper tracks 41 of a longitudinal carriage 4b as it can be inferred from FIGS. 10, 11 and 12.

Please amend the paragraph at page 11, lines 3-7, as follows:

A shaped plate 36 is fixed on the inner side of the carriage 4b, so that the end of an elastic mean means, for example a traction helical spring 37 can be fixed thereto having its opposite end engaged in a pivot 38 supported and fixed to the projecting end 33 of the control plate 32.

Please amend the paragraph at page 12, lines 6-11, as follows:

The mentioned shape 5 then has [[got]] a sliding track 53 and a shoulder 54 that supports and makes the loose roller 45 slide, which assures together with the guide pulley 43 the support and the longitudinal movement of the carriage 4a as well as of the carriage 4b for the shifting of the shutters 1 along the whole length of the piece of furniture M.

Please amend the paragraph at page 12, lines 12-16, as follows:

The same shape 5 then has [[got]] a proper opening 55 able to house and fix the double cam or upper guide 6 that regulates the overlapping of the two shutters during the opening and assures the coplanarity during the closing, as below better specified.

Please amend the paragraph at page 12, lines 22-27, as follows:

Said body 6 shows a groove 61 substantially linear and with ends 61a and 61b ~~bended~~ bent symmetrically and in a specular way with a ~~pretty~~ relatively sharp radius, in the direction opposite to the side of the sliding shutters or doors 1, [[its]] the length thereof being, by way of example, lightly longer than 2/4 of the total length of the guide 6.

Please amend the paragraph at page 13, lines 1-6, as follows:

A second groove 62, indicated with corresponding section but with almost the same total length as the entire guide 6, is ~~accomplished~~ provided near the outer edge with extremities 62a and 62b ~~bended~~ bent symmetrically and in a specular way with a very wide radius in the direction opposite to the side of the sliding shutters or doors 1.

Please amend the paragraph at page 13, lines 12-17, as follows:

On the base of ~~what is till now described and with reference to the shutter 1b till now taken in exam~~ the foregoing, it can be inferred that this shutter 1b is fundamentally supported and moved by the clamp 2 that links and connects the pair of transversal carriages 3a and 3b as well as their respective longitudinal carriages 4a and 4b.

Please amend the paragraph at page 13, lines 18-25, as follows:

Nevertheless, in order to avoid that this shutter 1b can swing and unhinge the guides and the supports till now considered, also the presence of a lower guide 70 is provided, which, like represented in FIGS. 7 and 8, has [[got]] a section shape of guide 70 with opening 71, which is preferentially embedded on the bottom or floor F of the opening V to be closed, and which is intended as being linear along the whole length of this opening V.

Please amend the paragraph at page 13, lines 26 to page 14, line 5, as follows:

Inside said lower guide section shape [[7]] 70 is housed the end 72 of an elbow transmission shaft 73 (cf. FIG. 9), the opposite end 74 of which is provided with a loose roller 75 housed in an opening 57 of the supporting shape 5 for the double cam or guide 6 as well as for the carriages 3a and 3b and carriages 4a and 4b. In this way, the movement of the shutter 1b remains perfectly balanced.

Please amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 4-9, as follows:

Dragging the shutter 1b to the left to cause the opening of the space V, also the contemporary movement of the clamp 2 towards the ~~entre~~ center of the piece of furniture M with consequent longitudinal translation of the pair of carriages 4a and 4b as well as of the respective carriages 3a and 3b is caused, as illustrated in FIG. 19.

Please amend the paragraph at page 16, lines 5-10, as follows:

Continuing with the opening traction of the shutter 1b, the latter goes beyond the ~~bended bent~~ sections of the cams 61 and 62 to move with the carriages 4a and 4b and so with the rollers 35 of the respective carriages 3a and 3b to the straight and parallel sections of the same cams 61 and 62, as represented in FIG. 20.

Please amend the paragraph at page 16, lines 11-19, as follows:

Going beyond the ~~bended bent~~ sections 61b and 62b of the grooves 61 and 62 causes the restoration of the usual rest conditions of the carriages 3a and 3b, which is also supported by the running back action of the elastic means 37 present on the carriage 3b, therefore, the guide rollers 35 being engaged along the straight and parallel sections of the same grooves 61 and 62, and also the shutter 1b comes back to its position straight and parallel to the position of the shutter 1a, overlapping by the same distance existing between the two grooves 61 and 62.

Please amend the paragraph at page 17, lines 3-12, as follows:

In case of closing the open shutter 1b, to bring it to a closed position coplanar to the already closed shutter, it is sufficient to reverse the direction of the haulage to cause a translation of the respective clamps 2 with the corresponding carriages 3a and 3b, the rollers 35 of which are forced to slide into the ~~bended bent~~ portions 61b and 62b of the grooves 61 and 62 to cause the inclination of the moving shutter 1b, until it has completely come back to the same plane as the other shutter 1a, i.e. to the position of complete closing, according to another of the above mentioned objects.

Please amend the paragraph at page 17, lines 13-23, as follows:

~~Seen~~ In view of the inclination of the clamp 2 along the track, in which the guide rollers 35 of the carriages 3a and 3b go along the ~~bended~~ bent portion portions of the grooves 61 and 62, it is clear that the same shutter 1 has to be provided with a shaft 73 for the transmission of the movement, said shaft 73 being elbow shaped, since such a shape allows to distribute the stress of light torsion also to the lower part of the same shutter, which is led by the end 72 in the groove 71 of the lower profile 70, thus assuring the steadiness of the sliding door, besides reducing at least the haulage stress, according to one of the specified objects.